act and use. Hereof comes It. that prince Harry
Is valiant: for the cold blood he did naturally inherit of his father. he hath. like lean. steril. and bare land. manured. husbanded. and tilled. with excellent endeavour of drinking good. and good store of fertile sherris : that he is become very hot. and valiant. If I had a thousand sons. the first human principle I would teach them. should be.—
to forswear thin potations[9], and addict themselves
to sack.

It seems probable to me. that Shakspeare. in these words, alludes to the Cambridge *Commencement;* and in what follows to the Oxford *Act;* for by those different names our two universities have long distinguished the season, at which each of them gives to her respective students a complete authority *to use* those *hoards of learning* which have entitled them to their several degrees in arts, law, physick, and divinity. TYRWHITT. So, in The Roaring Girl, 1611 :

" Then he is held a freshman and a sot,
" And never shall *commence*."

Again, in Pasquil's Jests, or Mother Bunch's Merriment, 1604: " A doctor that was newly *commenst* at Cambridge," &c.

Again, in Have With You to Saffron Walden, or Gabriel Harvey's Hunt is Up, 1596 : " *Commence, commence,* I admonish thee; thy merits are ripe for it, and there have been doctors of thy faculties." STEEVENS.

9 — to forswear thin potations.] In the preference given by FalstafF to sack, our author seems to have spoken the sentiments of his own time. In the Ordinances of the Household of King James I. dated in 1604?, (the second year of his reign,) is the following article : " And whereas in times past Spanish wines called *sacke*, were little or no whit used in our court, and that in late veares, though not of ordinary allowance, &c.—we understanding that it is used as common drinke and served at meales, as an ordinary to every meane officer, contrary to all order, using it rather for wantonesse and surfeiting, than for necessity, to a great wastefull expence/' &c.

Till the above mentioned period, the "thin potations" com-

plained of by FalstafF, had been the common beverage. See the Collection of Ordinances and Regulations for the Government of the Royal Household, &c. published by the Antiquary Society, 4to. 1790.

The ancient and genuine Sherry was a dry wine, and therefore fit to be drank with sugar. What we now use is in some degree